**Ambiguous Space**



Title: Right On

Tags: cropping, hand, ambiguous

For this assignment, I debated on a few shots that I had taken. I finally decided to do an extreme cropping of this photo. I feel like this photo meets the requirements of this assignment since one of the options we could choose from was doing an extreme cropping of something to make it ambiguous. I could probably go back and crop this photo more or change its position, but I liked the way this photo appears. I thought about changing this to black and white and then decided against that photo. Have you figured out what this object is?  
  
For me, I am usually the person who rarely crops and "cuts away" part of the picture. Even when I was scrapbooking a few years ago, I would hardly ever crop a photo very much. Now that I have experimented with cropping for this class, I know that I can make some everyday items appear ambiguous and that can be a creative writing prompt for my students. I am not afraid to crop away the pictures now; I know that the original is also saved on my computer. I can always go back and view the original and also show the original to my students once they have done the writing or guessing. I enjoyed this ambiguous assignment. This is an extreme cropping of my Dad's right thumb nail. :O)

**Peer Critique**

<http://thesnapshots.wikispaces.com/Michael-P5>

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Category | Strong | Adequate | Weak |
| Concept | Does an outstanding job of communicating the concept. | Does an adequate job communicating the concept. | Does a poor job communicating the concept. |
| Composition | Photograph uses composition principles very effectively. | Photograph does a good job using composition principles. | Photograph does a poor job using composition principles. |
| Focus | Focus is a perfect match with the concept of the shot. | Focus is an adequate match with the concept of the shot. | Focus is a poor match with the concept of the shot. |
| Technical Aspects | Shutter speed and aperture were perfectly chosen to match concept. | Shutter speed and aperture were adequately chosen to match concept. | Shutter speed and aperture were poorly chosen and do not match the concept. |
| Depth of Field | Excellent use of depth-of-field. | Adequate use of depth-of-field. | Poor use of depth-of-field. |
| Title/tags | Title and tags were perfectly chosen and written to express the content and concept. Spelling and word choice are excellent with no mistakes. | Title and tags were adequately chosen and written to express the content and concept. Spelling and word choice are good with only minor errors. | Title and tags were poorly chosen and written to express the content and concept. Contains multiple spelling errors or wrong word choices. |
| **Instructor evaluates this section** | | | |
| Self Critique | Excellent self-assessment. Written comments meet or exceed requirements. | Adequate self-assessment. Written comments meet requirements. | Poor self-assessment. Written comments do not meet requirements. |
| Peer Critique | Excellent peer assessment. Written comments meet or exceed requirements. | Adequate peer assessment. Written comments meet requirements. | Poor peer assessment. Written comments do not meet requirements. |
| Peer Comments | Peer comments exceed expectations. | Peer comments meet expectations. One or two comments might be missing. | Three or more peer comments were missing, incomplete or poorly written. |
|  |  |  |  |
| Total Points | >89% (45-50 pts.) | 80 – 89% (40 - 44 pts.) | <80% (<40 pts.) |

Michael, I like the look of this picture. It appears that you applied some type of effect to the picture using an image editing software. This really adds to the creepy effect of your closet monster. I really like the way the light from behind you helps to create the eerie feeling you were going for. Did you intend for the shot to not be straight? I might try to straighten this shot or use a totally different angle. I would suggest trying this shot with the focus only on the door or maybe have a flashlight on in the closet and take the shot at floor level. Either of these will give a different feeling to the photo. I also was afraid of the closet for a while after seeing Poltergeist. I'm glad my son is not afraid of the closet.

**Other Comments**

Kevin, this is a wonderful shot. My favorite part of the ambiguousness is the shadow of your hand. It really does look like "God's hand." This oil and water mix has such an odd color to it. It reminds me of scenes from some of the novels that I have been reading where supernatural characters have been injured or killed and their blood splatters everywhere. I think your photo adheres to the rule of thirds, and I am glad that you didn't drop your camera into the mixture. I think your photo has excellent composition, and I hardly have any suggestions for you. Maybe you could try the shot from a different angle or try the lake reflection shot from a different angle to include the reflection as well as what is being reflected. Overall, this is well done.

Jacki, the title of this photo is what my son always asks me as well. :O) I particularly like how your photo includes both color and black and white. I'm sure you learned vital tools in Photoshop that will help you as you continue to experiment with your photos. His face is precious! I like how you were able to catch his reflection so well in the mirror. Your photo adheres to the rule of thirds as well. Your photo inspires me to try a shot like this with my son. One suggestion I have is to shift your position maybe a little to the right; perhaps this will allow more of the actual reflection to show in the mirror.